



Upper San Antonio River: LID Demonstration at River Authority Facilities

Water Body	Upper San Antonio River (1911)
Location	San Antonio
River Basin	San Antonio River (18)
Contractor	San Antonio River Authority
Project Period	September 28, 2015 to February 28, 2018
Project Total	\$833,333 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

Background

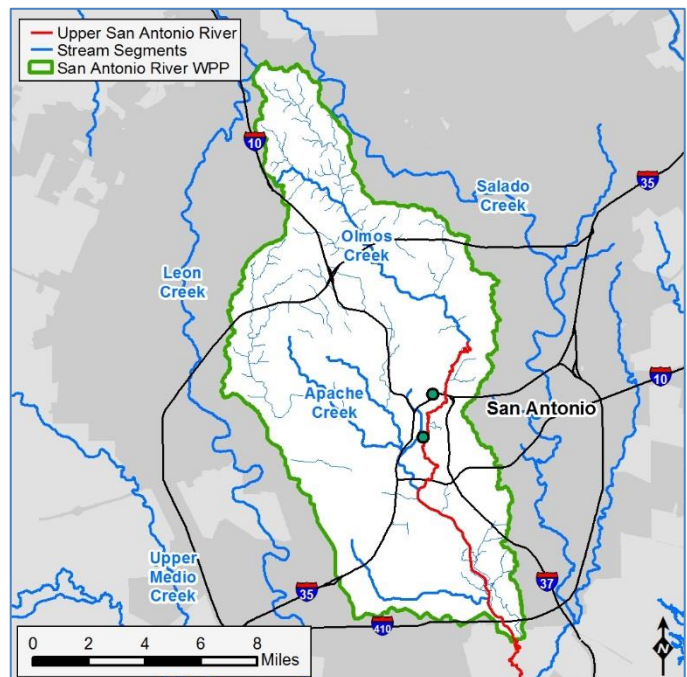
Portions of the Upper San Antonio River (segment 1911) have been impaired for elevated bacteria concentrations since 2000. In 2006, the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) completed the Upper San Antonio River Watershed Protection Plan (USAR WPP), and in 2007 the TCEQ adopted a total maximum daily load (TMDL) addressing this segment. The USAR WPP was updated in 2014 and the update was approved by EPA in 2015.

Project Description

The USAR WPP recommends a 30% reduction in bacteria loading from stormwater to bring the river into compliance with state water quality standards. The low impact development (LID) best management practices (BMPs) this project will install are identified in the USAR WPP. This project is designed to demonstrate the feasibility of LID retrofit projects in a heavily urbanized area. SARA's Guenther and Euclid properties have limited right-of-way, requiring strategic selection, placement, and design of BMPs. Runoff sampling at these sites show high bacteria concentrations and other constituents of concern, including nutrients. LID retrofits at the Guenther site consist of nine bioretention cells, with a total capacity of over 40,000 gallons, and five cisterns (total capacity of 10,000 gallons) connected to an irrigation system.

Current Status

Construction of the BMPs is complete. Tours and workshops have been conducted at the properties, permanent signage is in preparation, and monitoring of water quality benefits began in January 2017 and will continue through November.



Public Participation

The Bexar Regional Watershed Management – Water Quality Focus Group provides a forum for discussion of the continuing implementation and updates to the USAR WPP, which includes this project.

For More Information

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Project Highlights

- 09/2015 – Contract executed.
- 11/2015 – Post Award Meeting held.
- 12/2015 – QAPP Planning Meeting held.
- 03/2016 – Final Designs for all BMPs completed.
- 06/2016 – Draft QAPP for BMP monitoring submitted.
- 07/2016 – Subcontract for BMP construction and supervision awarded.
- 08/2016 – Report on Triple Bottom Line analysis of BMP options submitted.
- 11/2016 – Hard Hat Tour of LID construction conducted.
- 12/2016 – Draft O&M Procedures for BMPs submitted.
- 03/2017 – First Data Submission.
- 03/2017 – Photo-documentation of all BMPs submitted.
- 05/2017 – Record drawings (as-built) for all BMPs submitted.
- 08/2017 – Second data submission.
- 08/2017 – First LID Construction Workshop conducted.
- 09/2017 – Designs for permanent signage submitted.